

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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5 An audio playback/recording apparatus comprising: an audio input processing section 11, which receives analog audio data, and converts the analog audio data to digital audio data; a playback/recording processing section 12, which compresses digital audio data output from the audio input processing section 11 and stores the compressed digital audio data into a RAM 16, and which decompresses compressed digital audio data stored in the RAM 16; an audio output processing

10 section 13, which receives decompressed digital audio data output from the playback/recording processing section 12, converts the decompressed digital audio data to analog audio data, and outputs the analog audio data to an output apparatus; an external recording circuit section 18, which

15 records compressed digital audio data stored in the RAM 16 into an external recording medium 18A, reads out compressed digital audio data output from the external recording medium 18A, and stores the data into the RAM 16.